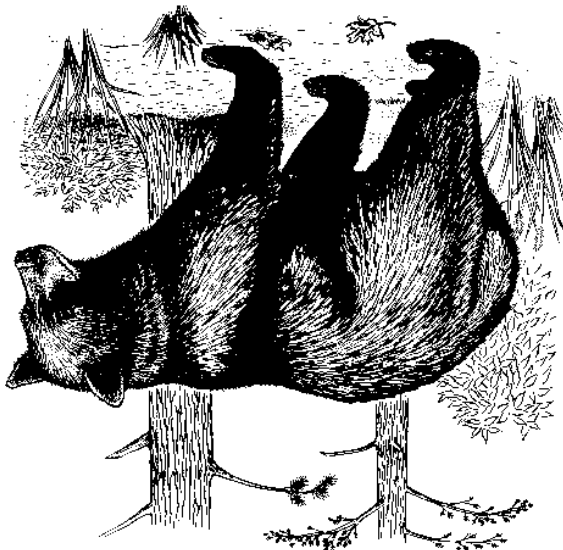


- ❖ Sept. 14 – Oct. 11
where dogs **are not** permitted
Zone A, B and C
- ❖ Dogs only: Sept. 21 – Oct. 11
❖ Bait/Other: Sept. 14 – Oct. 4
where dogs **are** permitted
Zone A, subzone A1, and B

Season Dates



Wisconsin Bear Hunting Regulations 1996

Dear Wisconsin Bear Hunter:

Welcome to the 1996 Bear Hunting Season!

The 1995 bear season is behind us with another excellent harvest. We again heard many positive comments from hunters indicating that bear were plentiful across their range. Our most recent survey and population model information indicates that the statewide bear population is approximately 14,000 animals, sending the message that bear are thriving in Wisconsin.

In 1995 the DNR, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, initiated a bear tagging project that resulted in the marking of 186 animals. We will continue to mark bears for the next two years with a goal of approximately 240 new animals marked yearly. If the bear you harvest has a set of these ear tags, please submit them to registration station personnel. This effort will assist the Department in determining the overall statewide bear population and provide important population information to help us manage your black bears into the 21st century.

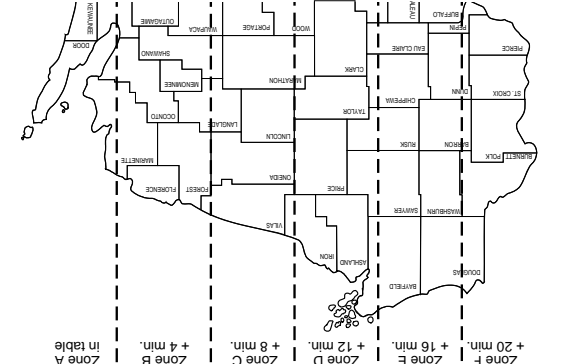
Wisconsin's healthy bear population should continue to provide high quality hunting opportunities far into the future. Hunting, however, will only be assured through the continued cooperative management efforts of the bear hunting community and the Department of Natural Resources. It is increasingly important for each of us to improve the public's impression of bear hunting in addition to increasing our knowledge base through cooperative studies on the species. Special thanks to the Wisconsin Bear Hunter's Association and the Wisconsin Bow Hunter's Association for their leadership in these areas and for sponsoring the Regulations pamphlet.

The near future brings many challenges from organizations attacking hunting on many fronts and in many forums. The high profile activity of bear hunting is under a great deal of scrutiny. We all need to do our very best to educate others who may not be as familiar with hunting as a management tool and a sport. Let's share with them the positive situations that keep us all enthused about bear hunting. Our responses to these challenges and our conduct in the field will define the future of bear hunting and management of the bear resource in Wisconsin.

Let's make sure that the upcoming season is another success, and that we all work for the long term future of bear hunting in Wisconsin. I encourage you to report violations and to inform others of the consequences of their actions. Keep up the good work and have a safe and enjoyable hunt in 1996!

Sincerely,
Bill Mytton, Deer and Bear Ecologist
Bureau of Wildlife Management

Zone-A Hunting Hours	
Date	A.M. P.M.
Sept.	14 6:00 7:19
	15 6:01 7:17
	16 6:02 7:15
	17 6:03 7:14
	18 6:04 7:12
	19 6:05 7:10
	20 6:06 7:08
	21 6:07 7:06
	22 6:08 7:05
	23 6:10 7:03
	24 6:11 7:01
	25 6:12 6:59
	26 6:13 6:57
	27 6:14 6:56
28 6:15 6:54	
29 6:16 6:52	
30 6:17 6:50	
Oct.	1 6:18 6:48
	2 6:20 6:47
	3 6:21 6:45
	4 6:22 6:43
	5 6:23 6:41
	6 6:24 6:40
	7 6:25 6:38
	8 6:26 6:36
	9 6:28 6:35
	10 6:29 6:33
	11 6:30 6:31



The six hunting hour zones are shown. Actual Zone-A hunting hours are listed below. To determine the opening (a.m.) and closing (p.m.) time for any day in another zone, add the minutes shown on the map for that zone to the Zone-A time listed on the table.

Hunting Hours:

Licenses and Permits

A bear hunting license (Resident: \$6.75, Nonresident: \$21.75) is required to apply for a bear harvest permit, pursue bear, or assist bear harvest permit holders in hunting activities, including baiting. To assist with the bear hunt means helping a bear harvest permit holder hunt a bear by handling dogs, tracking, trailing, locating the bear, or otherwise aiding the permit holder. You do not need to be with a bear harvest permit holder to place bear bait.

To kill and possess a bear, you must possess a bear harvest permit. The application deadline for bear harvest permits (Resident: \$30, Nonresident: \$120) is the Friday nearest January 15th. Send applications to:

License Section
Box 7964
Madison, WI 53707.

The number of bear permits issued per management zone is based upon previous hunter success rates and current bear population estimates.

Hunters are selected using a continuous preference system. Applicants who have been unsuccessful for the greatest number of consecutive years are chosen first. Hunters must apply every year to maintain their preference status.

Firearm and Archery Restrictions

It is illegal to:

- ❖ Hunt bear with any rim-fire rifle, .17 caliber center-fire rifle, .410 shotgun, fully automatic firearm, or with ammunition loaded with full metal jacket, non-expanding type bullets.
- ❖ Use handguns, unless they are loaded with .357, .41 and .44 magnum caliber cartridges or any other caliber handgun chambered for commercially-manufactured cartridges which produce a minimum muzzle energy of 1,000 foot pounds. These handguns must have a minimum barrel length of 5½ inches measured from the muzzle to the firing pin with the action closed.
- ❖ Use a muzzleloader, unless it is a smoothbore muzzleloading firearm of .45 caliber or larger, or a rifled muzzleloading firearm of .40 caliber or larger.



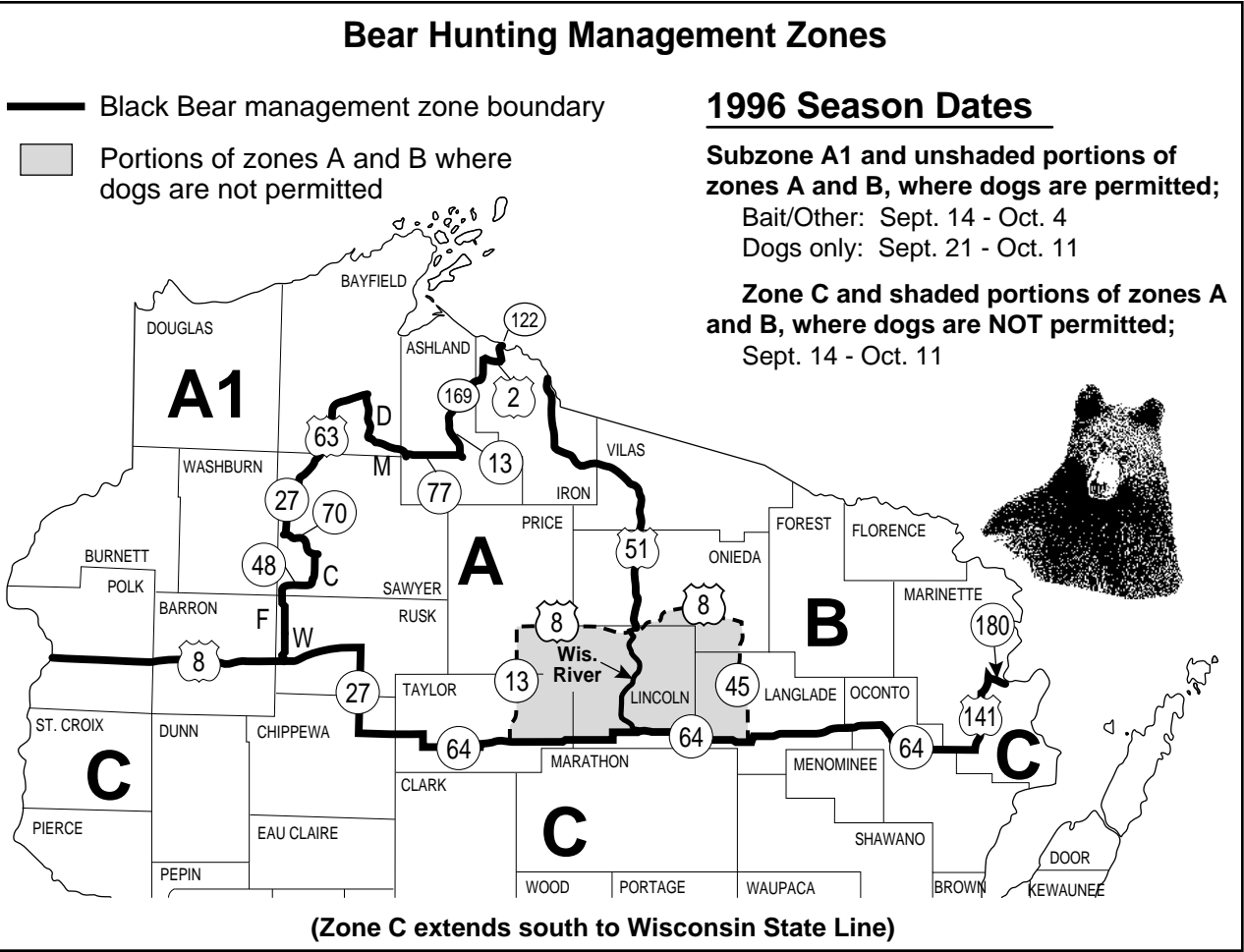
- Office hours 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday—Friday
- DNR Field Stations**
- 608-266-2621
Madison, Wisconsin 53707
Box 7921
Department of Natural Resources
(See License and Permit section for permit application mailing address.)
- General Mailing Address and Phone:**
- Southern District** (Madison) 608-275-3266
Dodgeville Area 608-935-3368
Horicon Area 414-387-7860
Madison Area 608-273-5955
Southeast District (Milwaukee) 414-263-8500
Kettle Moraine State Forest N. Unit 414-626-2116
Kettle Moraine State Forest S. Unit 414-594-6200
Bong (Racine Co.) 414-878-5600
Bong (Kenosha Co.) 414-652-0377
Hartford (Pike Lake) 414-670-3400
Plymouth 414-892-8756
Lake Michigan District (Green Bay) . 414-492-5800
Green Bay Area 414-448-5151
Manitowish 715-732-5500
Oshkosh Area 414-424-3050
Western District (Eau Claire) 715-839-3700
Black River Falls Area 715-284-5301
Eau Claire Area 715-839-3700
La Crosse Area 608-785-9000
North Central District (Rhinelander) . 715-365-8900
Antigo Area 715-627-4317
Wisconsin Rapids 715-421-7800
Woodruff 715-356-5211
Northwest District (Spoonerville) 715-635-2101
Brule Area 715-372-4866
Cumberland Area 715-822-3590
Park Falls Area 715-762-3204

Bear Hunting Management Zones

❖ Hunters who apply for and receive a bear harvest permit for subzone A1 may hunt only in subzone A1. Hunters who receive a harvest permit to hunt in zone A may hunt in subzone A1 or any part of zone A. Zone A has been split in an effort to shift hunting pressure from the more heavily hunted portions of zone A to subzone A1, an area which has traditionally received less pressure and has had greater numbers of bear damage and nuisance complaints. Because A1 is a subzone and falls within zone A, the State Administrative Code requires that hunters with zone A permits be allowed to also hunt in subzone A1.

Baiting

- It is illegal to:
- ❖ Place, use or hunt over bait contained within or containing metal, paper, plastic, glass, wood other than hollow stumps or other nondegradable materials.
 - ❖ Use any bait material, liquid or scent for attracting wild animals containing honey, bones, fish, meat, solid animal fat (which includes bacon grease) or parts of animal carcasses.
 - ❖ Place or hunt over baiting material, liquid or scent within 50 yards of any trail, road or campsite used by the public.
 - ❖ Hunt over baiting material, liquid or scent during the archery season without possessing a valid, unused bear harvest permit or archery deer tag.



- ❖ Use or hunt over a baited area containing more than 10 gallons of bait material, liquid or scent.
- Note: You may hunt over bait materials deposited by natural vegetation or found solely as a result of normal agricultural practices.*

Tagging and Registration

- ❖ Immediately upon killing, and before field dressing or moving the bear, you must validate the carcass tag by slitting the marks indicated on the tag. Immediately following validation, the carcass tag shall be attached to the bear at any location on the bear.
- ❖ Bear may be quartered prior to registration.
- ❖ Each bear must be registered within the county or adjoining county in which the bear was killed **and** within the black bear management zone or subzone in which it was killed no later than 5:00 pm on the day after the kill.
- ❖ The person who tags the bear must keep the carcass and registration tag with the butchered meat until it is consumed.

Transport

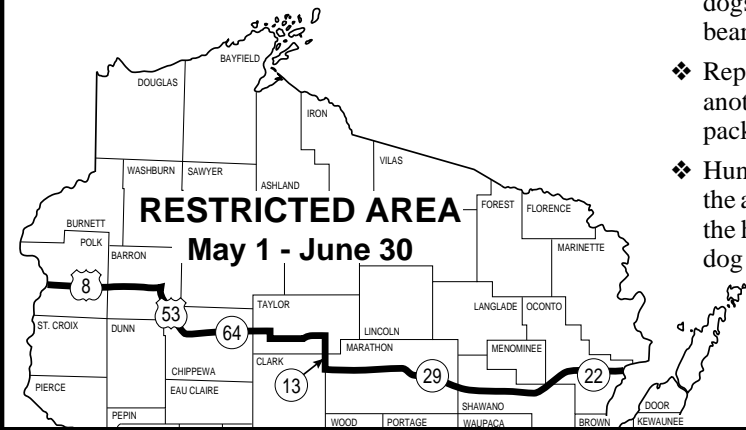
- It is illegal to:
- ❖ Transport another person’s unregistered bear unless accompanied by the person issued the carcass tag. Once registered, anyone may transport the animal.
 - ❖ Transport an unregistered bear, in or on a vehicle, unless the animal is openly exposed and placed so that the riders cannot handle the carcass tag.
- Note: Residents and nonresidents may transport legally possessed bear out of state.*

Bear Damage Assistance

Bear damage to crops is sometimes severe enough that the DNR may authorize landowners to kill bears prior to the fall hunting season. We know that many hunters wish to improve hunter-landowner relationships and would be willing to assist in the shooting of bears causing damage. Willing hunters would be expected to act promptly, within 48 hours of notification, and get to the damage site to assist the landowner. Since shooting would be restricted to the damage site, dog use wouldn’t be allowed. Interested hunters should contact their local DNR office for more information.

Dog Training and Use

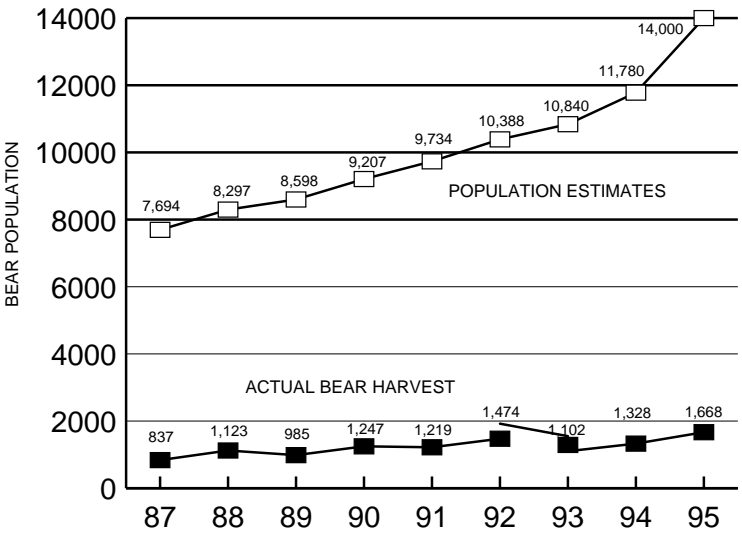
- It is illegal to:
- ❖ Hunt bear with dogs, except in the non-shaded portions of zones A, A1, and B of the bear hunting management zones map during the season for dogs.
 - ❖ Train dogs by pursuing bear **except** during **July 1 through August 31**. Bear dog training is not permitted during the bear hunting season.



- ❖ Train dogs on DNR lands, from April 15 through July 31, unless the dog is on a leash no longer than 8 feet, except on Class 1 field trial grounds or for bear dog training on DNR lands other than state parks after July 1.
- ❖ Hunt, train dogs, or pursue bear with a dog that is not tattooed, or that isn’t wearing a collar with the owner’s name and address attached.
- ❖ Allow the dogs to kill any wild animal.
- ❖ Hunt, train dogs, or pursue bear with more than 6 dogs in a single pack, regardless of the number of bear hunters or the dog’s ownership.
- ❖ Replace a dog engaged in the pursuit of a bear with another dog. However, dogs may be added to the pack up to the maximum of 6 dogs.
- ❖ Hunt or pursue any free-roaming wild animal with the aid of any dog, from May 1 to June 30, north of the highways shown on the map below, except for dog trials and training under DNR permit.



Bear Population and Harvest Trends: 1987-1995



The contents of this pamphlet were prepared by the Department of Natural Resources. A portion of the printing costs were paid for by the Wisconsin Bow Hunters' Association and the Wisconsin Bear Hunter's Association.



Wisconsin Bow Hunters' Association
PO Box 240
Clintonville, WI 54929



Wisconsin Bear Hunters' Association
853 Badlands Rd.
Hudson, WI 54016

SUPPORT ETHICAL RESPONSIBLE HUNTING

REPORT VIOLATIONS
CALL 1-800-847-9367

Toll Free • Statewide • 24-Hour • Confidential
(This is not an information number.)

All conservation wardens may enter private lands at any time while performing their duties.